

Diagramming The Complex

A **complex sentence** has one **independent clause** and one (or more) **dependent clause(s)**. A **subordinating conjunction** (because, although, when, if, since, while, etc.) introduces the dependent clause.



In a diagram:

- The **independent clause** is diagrammed on the main line.
- The **dependent clause** is attached beneath it with a dotted line, beginning with the subordinating conjunction.

Directions: Diagram the following complex sentences.

1. She smiled because she was happy.

2. I stayed home since it was late.

3. We left early although it was raining.

4. He ran faster when the bell rang.

5. They studied while their friends played.